



This is the first newsletter by the new permanent organization, Harlan Celebration 300. It needs a good name, and we need your suggestions. Please send a title to the editors for consideration. The winner will receive a great deal of personal satisfaction. Let's have a name by the next issue.

No. 1

JANUARY 1988

REUNION IS SMASH HIT

The 300 year reunion held August 14-16, 1987 was a roaring success measured by any yardstick. About 800 people came from near and far to attend the celebration. Sharing a common ancestry, Harlans came from as far away as the Pacific coast, Hawaii, and West Germany. When the weekend started, most folks knew few, if any, of the others in attendance, but by Sunday afternoon many friendships had been established.

The commandpost for the weekend was the Christiana Room of The Sheraton Brandywine Hotel in Wilmington, DE. Registration was attended to by Scott and Mimi Harlan, DE and Marylee Harlan, VA. Exhibits of photos and documents, a slide show, and memorabilia for sale, made for standing room only most of the weekend. There was so much interest that it was difficult to close the room to attend evening events. As one reluctant to leave cousin said, "I've been thrown out of a lot of places, but never by a Harlan."

The first formal event of the weekend was a filled-to-capacity reception held at the Brandywine River Museum in Chadds Ford, PA. All three floors plus the entryway and courtyard held Harlans, exchanging names and ancestral lines. During the weekend as an optional activity, 325 people were taken on one of 7 bus tours guided by Martha and Elgene Smith, PA. The route went past ancestral grounds of George and Michael Harlan, and other points of interest to the family, including Michael's old house built about 1690.

The owner graciously let 325 Harlans see the inside as part of the tour.

Other major events of the weekend were the picnic, banquet, and memorial services reported elsewhere in this newsletter.

BANQUET BRINGS ALL TOGETHER

By Betty Harris, IN

The banquet Saturday night at the Radisson Hotel was attended by 760 Harlan descendants seated together in one room. Banquet keynote speaker Dr. John Kern, Director of Historic and Cultural Affairs for Delaware, was astounded that so many would travel so far to attend.

"The History and Genealogy of the Harlan Family," published in 1914 by Alpheus Harlan, an Ohio lawyer, lists 10,484 Harlan descendants. Dr. Kern estimated about 25,000 Harlans live in the U.S. today.

What Harlans at the national reunion seem to have in common is a pride in family, a curiosity about our country and its history, an adventuresome spirit, and a willingness to travel to find out about our roots. For example, so many have gone to the ancestral home in England that the dismayed current owner once said that he thought everyone in the States must be named Harlan.

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HARLAN CELEBRATION 300 PERMANENT ASSOCIATION

To maintain interest and take advantage of the momentum created by the reunion, a permanent association called Harlan Celebration 300 has been incorporated. There are 3 national officers and a Board of Directors as authorized by the charter prepared by Lane Harlan, Boonville, MO. The purpose of the organization is to document Harlan genealogy and historical contributions to the U.S.

The permanent association will, for as long as possible, be supported by donations. The organization is non-profit, and tax exempt status 501 (C) (3) has been applied for with Internal Revenue Service.

The newsletter, to be published at least annually, will serve as the principle national communication medium. Submissions of interesting articles about people, places, history, etc. will be greatly appreciated by the editors.

The Regional Representatives will serve as coordinators for family business within their geographic areas. There are many good works that could be undertaken if supported with enough enthusiasm. Volunteers interested in working on projects, or those with ideas should contact their Regional Representative.

Please help to keep our mailing list updated. See correction form on page 3.

Harlans are a gregarious, talkative lot who made instant friends at the reunion. No one seemed to feel any barriers, for all were cousins of some degree or other. Still, a ballroom full of Harlans was a bit overwhelming to those who'd never known another one before.

Tom Harlan, DE, was emcee. He read a letter written by President Ronald Reagan for the reunion, and letters from Senators Joseph H. Biden and William Roth. The invocation and benediction were by Rev. Lowell Harlan, VA. Rebecca Gaskill, IN, led "American the Beautiful" and other melodies and taught the group the song, "A Family of Friends," which she wrote in tribute to the 300 years of Harlans in this country and in memory of her mother, Mary Harlan Gaskill.

Reunion coordinator/originator Dan Harlan was presented a plaque—and given a standing ovation by the appreciative assemblage.

When Virginia Harlan Williams, NV, led the roll call of states, California and Texas had the greatest representation. Texan Joydelle Wolfram read the Harlan Resolution passed by the Texas legislature and invited everyone to the Texas annual Harlan reunion in October.

John R. Harlan, GA, national treasurer, reported on the balance of funds. To ensure seed money for the permanent association, a collection was taken at the banquet. Over \$2,000 was collected. Membership in the Harlan Family Association is free to all interested Harlan descendants.

Ridge Harlan, CA, showed slides of Monkwearmouth "where it all began." Others taking part in the program were Carol D. Harlan, DE; Ron Harlan, CO; Lane Harlan, MO; W. Thomas Harlan, VA; Peggy Harlan Talley, OK; and Judi Harlan Gruber.

Table favors were made by Martha Smith, PA, from clay soils collected at various locations around the country. Grasses from Harlan ancestral lands were inserted into the clay fired "vases." Over 750 individual keepsakes were handmade by Martha.

GENEALOGY REPRINT

The reprint of Alpheus Harlan's 1914 book was such a success that all 600 copies have been sold, according to Tom and Marylee Harlan, VA. Because orders continue to come in, an additional 300 copies have been printed. Peggy Harlan Talley, OK will receive orders and coordinate shipping. Because of higher paper costs, the price has increased slightly to \$40 including shipping. All specifications are the same on this second reprint. Orders for the book should be sent directly to Peggy Talley, 104 Fern Dr., Poteau, OK 74953. Make your check payable to The Harlan Tricentennial Fund.

VIDEOTAPE

A one hour video tape of the Tricentennial has been made by cinematographer Bob Dilorio, of Wilmington, DE. It's an excellent documentary of the events of that memorable weekend, plus the additional footage shot during the weekend. Not only will it serve as a great reminder for those who were there, but it is something to pass along to future generations. If you want one, send a check for \$35.00 including shipping made out to the Harlan Tricentennial Fund to: Connie Harlan Ward, 6035 Flanders Rd., Sylvania, OH 43560.



At reunion 3 generations pose for photo. Seated is Ruth Blumer, 88, MS, her daughter Marion Blumer Bassett, MS, and granddaughter Harlan (Lani) Bassett Redington, FL.

A PROPOSAL

By Robert Harlan, Regional Representative, SE

Before this reunion was over there were many comments and discussions for the next gathering. Everyone agreed that one reunion every 100 years is not enough to keep the interest alive. So the question is - how often should we have a reunion? Our history shows that too many reunions close together do not work well because attendance diminishes. So how do we reach a happy median? Now that we have an active national organization, five Regional Representatives, and a good communications system, all that is needed is a plan. I would like to propose the following:

- Celebration 400 be held in Newcastle, Delaware in August 2087.
- A national reunion be held every 25 years in August at a location established by the national committee and regional representatives.
- A regional reunion be held in each region between each 25-year reunion.

Example:

- 1987 - Celebration 300
- 1992 - Region A
- 1996 - Region B
- 2000 - Region C
- 2004 - Region D
- 2008 - Region E
- 2012 - National Reunion
- 2017 - Region A
- 2021 - Region B
- 2025 - Region C
- 2029 - Region D
- 2033 - Region E
- 2037 - National Reunion

The object of this type schedule is to have not more than one reunion during any year, allowing people to attend not only their reunion but others as well. Modifications, such as two regions combining into one reunion could be accomplished. Comments on this proposal or any other plan should be sent to your Regional Representative.

THE HOSPITALITY ROOM By Virginia Harlan Hess, MO

A gratifying aspect of the Reunion was the genuine interest shown by so many of the family members in the exhibit area of the hospitality room. Ridge's (Harlan, CA) attractive display of matted photographs of the English points of interest to the Harlans drew a crowd, and coupled with his slide presentation at the banquet, resulted in the inevitable suggestion that a group tour of the homeland should be a future project.

Copies of articles and papers written about our ancestors and their families were in demand, so much so that we photocopied nearly 9000 reprints of the various items for distribution. Ruth (Harlan Lamb, MO) was surprised at the attention her watercolor received, and she was persuaded to take orders for copies. Rebecca, (Gaskill, IN) who composed the musical tribute, "A Family of Friends," especially for the occasion, has been pleased by the interest shown in the tapes and sheet music. William (CA) authored a fascinating account of Harlan adventures during the 1840's, and John (GA) provided us with information in regard to the naming of Harlan County, Kentucky. A cross stitch of the logo done by Marylee Harlan, VA drew considerable interest from hobbyists. Numerous other items filled the tables and bulletin boards, kindling interest in the family record.

The large U.S. map gave all registrants the chance to pinpoint their hometowns. It was a favorite gathering spot for conversation. The blue map pins (indicating George's line) far exceeded the number red ones (Michael's descendants).

And, of course, the book, "History and Genealogy of the Harlan Family," was the most popular item on display as cousins traced their lineage, compared notes, and discovered their roots! The beautiful Tricentennial Reprint edition was a real hit!

No doubt we will accumulate additional pieces of memorabilia with forthcoming regional and national reunions. All of it makes Harlan history more meaningful, and gives us an increasing awareness of our rich

common heritage. How better could we learn about mainstream America over the past three centuries than to study the history of the Harlan Family as it settled this country from the Atlantic to the Pacific?" And having been providentially blessed, it behooves us descendants of George and Michael to continue the legacy that is ours.

HOTDOGS IN BATTERY PARK

The Wilmington, DE Jaycees "catered" the picnic in the park Saturday afternoon. According to Jim Harlan, DE "the picnic was a success and we sold nearly 100 pounds of hotdogs and untold gallons of soda. The ice cream vendor was happy, too. I WAS stopped for speeding when I went out to buy some more ice, but before the ice melted, the New Castle police officer saw the name on my license and let me go. In more ways than one, it was nice to be a Harlan on August 15."

COMMEMORATIVE MARKERS

A committee to discuss how to permanently recognize the reunion met in New Castle during the reunion weekend. It was agreed that a marker of suitable material might be installed at the 3 Meeting Houses that were significant to the lives of early Harlans. Martha and Elgene Smith, PA, have met with local Quaker officials and have received tentative approval. They are currently gathering information on materials and costs for permanent installation. This project should be completed by spring 1988. In addition to the markers, the committee agreed that a donation near the amount spent on the markers should be presented to the Monkwearmouth building fund. The church, where George and Michael were baptized, is undergoing serious restoration after an arson caused fire.

HELP! HELP! HELP! HELP! HELP!				
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<input type="checkbox"/> ADDRESS CHANGE		<input type="checkbox"/> RECEIVING DUPLICATES		
<input type="checkbox"/> ADDRESS CORRECTION		<input type="checkbox"/> PLEASE ADD MY NAME		
NAME: _____				
STREET: _____				
CITY: _____				
STATE: _____		ZIP: _____		
Please mail to:				
Virginia Harlan Williams 5485 El Capitan Way Las Vegas, NV 89128				

A SPECIAL SOUVENIR

Jim Gosewisch, IL, has produced a plaque of bronzed aluminum with the celebration 300 logo silk screened in black and red (like the T-shirts). This plaque is an impressive permanent rememberance of celebration 300. To order contact Jim and Sue Harlan, 1342 S. Blackhawk, Freeport, IL, 61032.

10" x 12"	mounted on particle board	\$25
5" x 7"	mounted on particle board	\$20
10" x 12"	ready to mount	\$15
5" x 7"	ready to mount	\$12

HARLAN CELEBRATION 300

413 1/2 Main St., Box 151
Boonville, MO 65233

OFFICERS

President Tom Harlan, 7109 Hanks Pl.,
Springfield, VA 22153
Vice President Tim Harlan, c/o Harlan
Celebration 300, MO
Sec/Treas. John Harlan, 422 Aumond Rd.,
Augusta, GA 30909

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Virginia Harlan Hess
Linda L. Harlan
Connie Harlan Ward
Ruth Harlan Lamb
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REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

West - William Harlan, 21 Boulevard Ct.,
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
Includes WA, OR, CA, ID, MT, WY, CO,
NM, AZ, UV, UT, AK, HI.
North Central - Virginia Hess, 409 Phelps,
Windsor, MO 65360
Includes ND, SD, NE, KS, MN, IA, MO, WI,
IL, MI, IN, OH.
Northeast - Scott Harlan, c/o 703 Severn
Rd., Wilmington, DE 19803
Includes MD, PA, DE, NY, NJ, CT, MA, VT,
NH, ME, RI.
Southeast - Robert Harlan, 118 Dartmouth
Way, Niceville, FL 32578
Includes VA, WV, KY, TN, NC, SC, GA, FL.
South Central - Marc Harlan, P.O. Box
9701, Fort Worth, TX 76107
Includes TX, OK, AR, LA, MS, AL.



*Bus tours enjoy visit to
Michael Harlan's House.*

HARLAN ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS By Marc S. Smith

The annual meeting of the Harlan Association of Texas was held Sunday, October 4, 1987 at the Blue Ridge Baptist Church near Marlin, Texas. The meeting convened in the sanctuary following the 10 o'clock church service. Well over 100 members of the family were in attendance. After the convocation by George Harlan several good old Baptist hymns were sung by the group. Then the minutes of the last meeting and the treasurer's report were received. Joydelle Wolfram of Marlin reported that she now had documented 30,000 descendants of Aaron and Elizabeth (Stuart) Harlan, No. 194 in THE BOOK, and that she hoped to finish the work this winter. Prizes were given to the oldest and youngest family member in attendance. There were over 90 years difference in their ages. A family from Georgia won the prize for having come the greatest distance. The collection was taken; part went to the church for repairs and part went to Joydelle to defray her expenses for material. The election of officers was held, and the meeting closed with a song and benediction by Paula Harlan Buck of Tyler, Texas. Those in attendance then adjourned to the cemetery next to the church where, under a cluster of large old trees, tables were set up and a covered dish lunch was enjoyed by all.

This newsletter is published at least annually by Harlan Celebration 300, a permanent organization established to document the historical contributions made by Harlans in America. Stories, photos, and other information submitted for publication should be sent to the editors.

Editors

Tom and Marylee Harlan
7109 Hanks Place
Springfield, Virginia 22153

OLDEST AND YOUNGEST

Ruth Harlan Blumer, (#9295) Raymond, MS at age 88 was the oldest person to attend the reunion, while Maureen Allison Dugan, DeKalb, IL was the youngest at 4 months. Others from Alpheus' 1914 book were Richard Harlan, Punta Forda, FL, and Agnes Harlan, Decatur, AL.

MEMORIAL SERVICE CONCLUDES REUNION

The Harlan Tricentennial Reunion ended with memorial services on August 16. The services were held in the Old Kennett Meeting House near Chadd's Ford, PA, which was built in 1731 on land belonging to Ezekiel Harlan, the eldest of George's sons. Because of limited seating, it was necessary to schedule three sessions to accommodate a total of about 350 who attended.

The services were patterned after the "silent meeting" that was observed by Quakers during their early days in America. In those days, members spoke only when so moved by the Holy Spirit, and then the others reflected on what they had said.

Thomas and Frances Taylor, who are still members of the Kennett Meeting in nearby Kennett Square, spoke about the early history of the Old Kennett Meeting, including the fact that the first shots in the Revolutionary War Battle of the Brandywine were exchanged in the adjacent burying ground on September 11, 1777. The military activities that "First day" morning caused the meeting to be postponed until the following week. Soldiers killed in the battle are buried in the cemetery.

The Reverend Lowell B. Harlan of Alexandria, VA, gave the memorial address, touching on some of the highlights of three hundred years of Harlans in America.



Services were held at Old Kennett Meeting.

MEMORIAL ADDRESS

(Given by Lowell Harlan, VA, at Old Kennett Meeting, August 16, 1987)

In the next few minutes I intend to review some of the high points of the history of the Harlan family in America, and to develop some insights into the meaning of their lives for us, their descendants.

The first Harlans were all members of the Society of Friends, or Quakers. This denomination, which goes back only to about the time our ancestor George was born, was one which stressed simplicity, purity, and truth. It arose out of the religious ferment of the mid-17th century, when religious feeling and convictions were strong and often bloody. The Quakers, basing their beliefs on the plain teachings of Christ, stood against formality in worship in any way. They refused to take oaths, to pay tithes, or to render honors to their social "betters." Their speech was plain and they did not try to impress others with their learning or their humility. Their beliefs and practices were regarded at that time as almost tantamount to treason. So far did they offend the established order in England that by the time they began to come to America, some 15,000 Quakers had suffered legal sentences, and over 450 are known to have died in prison.

Such was the setting that led our first ancestors to leave Great Britain and come to America in 1687, to settle in William Penn's colony on the banks of the Delaware River. At the Seventh National Harlan Reunion, held near here in 1897, the president of the family association described the first Harlans as "God-fearing people who left their homes and native land to come to the New World to build for themselves new homes, where they might worship God according to the dictates of their consciences, guided by the Holy Ghost and God's Holy Word." He hoped for each of the Harlan descendants that when they departed this life they would have lived for something, and dying would leave names not soon to be forgotten. He also said that it was fitting for their descendants to meet periodically to celebrate and thank God for the way He had led them. It is in keeping with this mandate that we have assembled here this weekend.

A strong sense of religious conviction has marked our family's activities through these last three centuries. Nearly all of them, and most of us, readily identify with some Christian denomination. The earliest members were all Quakers, and to see that their families stayed that way, they put strong emphasis on regular attendance at meetings, and on marriage within the Society of Friends. Religious ostracism, a heavy penalty in those days, was adjudged for violating either of these tenets. As they came in contact with others, and particularly as they moved westward, however, they assumed other religious affiliations, regardless of the penalties. Our Genealogy specifies the religion of each person, and progressively through the first two centuries there appear Baptists, Congregationalists, Christians, Lutherans, Methodists, Presbyterians, and Universalists, with a sprinkling of Episcopalians and at least one Roman Catholic. Nevertheless, down to the beginning of this century, there were still more Quakers than any other denomination. It is anyone's guess, of course, what all we are now, what with the social upheavals, the mobility, and the changing attitudes of the last fifty years.

Our ancestors in England were yeomen, or small farmers who cultivated their own land. They had a strong tradition of sturdiness and hard work, which the early Harlans brought to America. In Penn's colony most of them were farmers, joined soon by the artisans and small town tradesmen necessary for supplying the needs of colonial America. Early in the 18th century we find carpenters, masons, millers, coopers, blacksmiths, shoemakers, and others who provided the necessities of life. Later merchants and traders appeared, and by the end of the century there were teachers, doctors, ministers, and lawyers to attend to the needs of the economy and the society of the developing nation.

If we search our history for famous names, we find only a few. Our ancestors were in the main content to be useful citizens, to raise worthy families, and to be faithful to tenets of their simple beliefs. Several became local officials, and in time rose to colonial, state, and even national positions. But most were more interested in carrying out their civic and social duties, than in gaining fame for doing so.

James Harlan of Iowa served eighteen years in the U. S. Senate, and a little more than a year as Secretary of the Interior in Andrew Johnson's Cabinet. His statue is one of the two representing his state in Statuary Hall in our national Capitol. His daughter Mary married Robert Todd Lincoln, son of the late President, who later served as a diplomat and as Secretary of War in the Garfield and Arthur Administrations. Ida Saxton, a great, great, great granddaughter of one of George Harlan's grandsons, married William McKinley, and saw her husband twice elected President. (One hopes that these associations with assassinated Presidents have not deterred others from marrying into illustrious families!)

Perhaps the most noted of our relatives were two who bore the same name, John Marshall Harlan. They were grandfather and grandson, and both served as Associate Justices on the Supreme Court. The elder is remembered for his lone dissent against a decision in 1896 which upheld segregation. His grandson in 1954 joined in the unanimous overturning of this decision.

Alpheus Harlan's Genealogy contains numerous anecdotes and reminiscences about Harlans of the first two centuries, and I commend it to your reading. You cannot help being proud to be descended from such courageous, resourceful, and often colorful characters. There were saints and sinners, some noted but most unnoticed in their times, and some who merely "hewed wood and drew water," scarcely leaving their footprints on the sands of time.

Our purpose here this morning is to consider and reflect upon what these Harlans contributed to their times, and how they have influenced our lives. What indeed were these contributions? First, I think, we must remember that they were intensely religious people. They came here to have freedom to worship according to the dictates of their respective consciences. Here they found religious freedom, and here they practiced religious toleration toward others (at least toward those outside their own denomination). By the examples of their religiously-motivated lives, they set standards which influenced others, however much they may have disagreed on religious practice and beliefs. In their dealings with the red Indians and the black slaves, they showed that brotherhood was possible, and that people could get along without violence and exploitation. They showed that all can live together peacefully and harmoniously.

Second, they were industrious, hard-working, and thrifty, in continuance of the yeoman tradition of their English forebears. They did not seek power or wealth, nor did they pursue the "get-rich-quick" schemes which marred so much of the early settlement of the New World. Rather they settled down to make the most of what they found, and worked for the general betterment of their communities. They tamed and civilized the frontier, planting farms and building homes and towns, bringing peace and prosperity to a growing nation.

Finally, and this is probably the most important of their contributions, they lived solid and respectable lives, more intent on developing character than on gaining fame or fortune. They took part in the affairs of their developing communities. They set higher standards for trade and social intercourse by their own examples of living and dealing. They were not discouraged or resentful when others did not measure up to their standards, but rather they worked and waited patiently to bring others to their point of view; or to modify their own positions when it appeared they ought to do so.

We can well be proud of our Harlan ancestors. They set worthy patterns for us to follow. We need not apologize for them or for their deeds. Some of course did go astray, but that is inevitable; and yet none, to my knowledge, ever brought dishonor or disgrace to our family name. They were the products of their times, and they sought to improve what they found, to leave the world a better place than it was when they arrived in it. By and large they succeeded, and on the whole are fine examples of the noblest and best in the American character.

When this service is over, you are invited to go outside and look around the graveyard where many of our ancestors are buried. As you do, you may want to reflect on some lines from Thomas Gray's "Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard," which are appropriate to those whom we honor today.

Perhaps in this neglected spot is laid
Some heart once pregnant with celestial fire;
Hands that the rod of empire might have swayed,
Or waked to ecstasy the living lyre.

* * * * *

Far from the madding crowd's ignoble strife
Their sober wishes never learned to stray;
Along the cool sequestered vale of life,
They kept the noiseless tenor of their way.

Thus the first three hundred years of Harlans in America. Honor their memory, revere their deeds, forgive their shortcomings; and try as best you can to do as much for our family in our time as they did in theirs.

THE CONCEPT

In the spring of 1985 in New Castle, the landing site of George and Michael Harlan 300 years ago, I was asked how many Harlans might come to the Tricentennial Reunion. Facetiously, I replied, "anywhere from 5 to 500."

The more than 800 who attended was beyond the expectation of anyone involved in the planning. It was an overwhelming response, which set the tone of the entire weekend. The Reunion not only celebrated an historic event—the arrival of the Harlan Family in America—but became, itself, an historic occasion. Harlans from 45 states, West Germany and Mexico affirmed, once again, their universal kinship.

It was my privilege to coordinate celebration 300. But its success must be credited to scores of individuals who volunteered their time and talent. A paid staff could never have produced the spontaneity that soon became evident. Family pride generated enthusiasm and enthusiasm generated momentum. When a constant flow of creative ideas, a tremendous response to the Tricentennial Fund and just plain everyday competence were added, something exciting had to happen.

Perhaps the following comments express it best: "Truly a once-in-a-lifetime experience"..."Last August I doubted, last February was skeptical, but now I am elated"..."Our branch of the family all thought (the Reunion) was terrific"..."We're still feeling great about the Reunion. It was all and more than I expected"..."I know I have never attended anything where plans were made and carried out like they were for the reunion"..."We had such a wonderful experience in Delaware that it is hard to let it go."

Now it's time to look ahead. The new national Association has the torch. I hope Harlans everywhere will become more conscious than ever that they are a part of "A Family of Friends."

Fraternally,
Dan Harlan, NM

A FAMILY OF FRIENDS

Peaceful, brave, and loving Friends,
Centered in the One,
With quiet courage, followed dreams
Toward the setting sun.
Across the sea, across this land,
So strong and confident,
They planted well this country's roots
Sharing as they went.

A Family of Friends
In unity we stand.
We celebrate our heritage
Together hand in hand.

Three hundred years of steadfast faith
Has brought our family through.
Now may we find strength from our past;
Our heritage renew.
When faced with trials, hardships, pains,
Remember how you're blessed;
Just center to your gentle past
For love was their bequest.

A Family of Friends
In unity we stand.
We celebrate our heritage
Together hand in hand.

A Family of Friends
In unity we stand.
Now may the Father bless today
This Family of Friends.

[Words and Music written in 1987 by Rebecca L. Gaskill, and Tapes and sheet music of the above original, copyrighted song may be purchased by contacting Rebecca L. Gaskill, 410 Mills Lane, New Albany, Indiana 47150 - Phone (812) 948-8531.]

HARLAN TRICENTENNIAL FUND

FINANCIAL REPORT NOVEMBER 1, 1987

INCOME:

Contributions:

August 15, 1986 to August 10, 1987	\$6,125.00
August 10, 1987 to August 17, 1987	2,445.12
August 18, 1987 to Present	795.00

Banquet Meals & Bus Tour & Miscellaneous Sales	16,507.27
Genealogy Book Sales	22,655.00
T-Shirt Profits	669.00
Video Sales	3,090.00
Interest (savings Acct.)	481.80
TOTAL	\$52,768.19

DISBURSEMENTS:

Reception	2,085.10
Bus Tours	1,844.06
Picnic	469.63
Banquet	12,632.08
Printing & Shipping – Genealogy Book	13,728.86
Postage and Other Printing	2,489.82
Video	1,874.19
Reunion Headquarters Expense	747.45
Other Reunion Expense	546.50
TOTAL	\$36,417.69

Cash in Savings Account	16,350.50
Budgeted Future Expenditures	
3 Meeting Markers	3,000.00
Monkwearmouth Restoration Fund Contribution	3,000.00
Video Production & Shipping	1,000.00
TOTAL	\$7,000.00

Future activities depend on your continuing support. Please send your contributions to John Harlan, Sec/Treas., 422 Aumond Rd., Augusta, GA 30909.

THE GIDEON GILPIN HOUSE

By Martha Smith, PA

The Gideon Gilpin house, better known as General Lafayette's headquarters during the Battle of the Brandywine 1777, was pointed out during the Tricentennial to those who took the Harlan County bus tours. At the time of the Revolution, General Lafayette established his headquarters here for about five days. Much of the heaviest fighting occurred on this farm and the one adjoining it on the north belonging to Gideon Gilpin's father, Joseph.

Gideon Gilpin was married to the great grand-daughter of #3 George Harlan, #240 Sarah Gress. (Page 115 in the Harlan Genealogy). The first five of the seven Gilpin children were living at the time of this event.

The family was a prominent Quaker farm family and by religious persuasion were opposed to war. But their home was commandeered and the family found itself embroiled unwittingly in the bitter action.

"After the battle Gilpin's property was plundered by foraging soldiers. The claim for losses filed by Gilpin provides insight into the appearance of the prosperous farm in September 1777. Included among his losses were: 10 milk cows, 1 yoke oxen, 48 sheep, 28 swine, 12 tons of hay, 230 bushels of wheat, 50 pounds of bacon, a history book, and one gun. Today the house appears much as it was in 1777 when the famous French patriot quartered there." (Chester County Day News 1987).

"Forty-eight years later, General Lafayette returned to America and Chester County amid much ceremony and honor on the invitation of President Monroe. During his tour, Lafayette insisted upon calling upon the Gilpin family at their Chadds Ford home. He found Gideon aged, ill and abed. 'The sick man was gratified at the sight of the veteran, who pressed his hand cordially and wished him every blessing'" (The History of Chester County, Futhey & Cope, p.130).

The genealogy of #240 Sarah Gress Gilpin is: #3 George Harlan, #12 Elizabeth Harlan Robinson, #55 Ann Robinson Gress.

UPDATING THE GENEALOGY

At the genealogy workshop the group decided that a major undertaking of the family should be the correction and updating of the Alpheus Harlan genealogy. So that we will all be working from the same starting point, it is suggested that we begin with the sixth generation of the Harlans listed in the family genealogy. (These are numbered #110 – #429.)

The following individuals volunteered to coordinate the Harlan genealogy revision/update for the various branches of the family. If you are descended from one of these lines, please contact the coordinator and assist them as much as you can. If your sixth generation ancestor is not listed below, and you are willing to assist in this project, please contact your regional coordinator so that your name and address can be listed in a future newsletter.

#111	JONATHAN HARLAN	Lawrence Hinken 621 173rd St. Hammond, IN 46324
#119	HANNAN HARLAN	Pat McCurdy 2217 S. 107 E. Ave Tulsa, OK 74129
#180	GEORGE HARLAN 181 ELIZABETH HARLAN 182 SARAH HARLAN	Phyllis Koelsch 165 Walton Waukesha, WI 53180
#187	BETTY HARLAN 188 AARON HARLAN 189 GEORGE HARLAN 190 SAMUEL HARLAN 191 WILLIAM HARLAN	Mary F. Whiteside 118 Highland Park Glasgow, KY 42141
#195	SAMUEL HARLAN	Thomas N. Harlan 902 Allgood Rd. Stone Mountain, GA 30083
#200	VALENTINE HARLAN	Judy Harlan Chaffin 2530 Shepherdwood Germantown, TN 38138
#202	WILLIAM WEBB 203 STEPHEN WEBB 204 REBECCA WEBB 205 EZEKIEL WEBB 206 JANE WEBB	William P. Webb & Thomas L. Webb P.O. Box 367 Avondale, PA 19311
#212	JEHU HARLAN 213 ELIJAH HARLAN 214 CATHERINE HARLAN 215 SILAS HARLAN 216 JAMES HARLAN 217 ELIZABETH HARLAN	Darlene Norman 3620 N. Calhoun Rd. Brookfield, WI 53005
#218	GEORGE HARLAN	Steve Harrison 2542 Queen Ridge Independence, MO 64055
Other genealogical revisions/updates are being coordinated by the following people:		
#62	JOSEPH HARLAN 68 JOHN HARLAN	Juanita Creighton 1507 Longo Rd. T2 Richmond, VA 23233
#852	GEORGE HARLAN	Helen Walton Ebersole 1305 Wheatland Ave. Lancaster, PA 17603
#688	SAMUEL HARLAN	Hazel Folty Box 93 B El Campo, TX 77437
#1584	JONATHAN HARLAN	Kathy Kemerer R.D. 6, Penn Dr. Butler, PA 16001

If you need help researching census records, federal land grants, war and pension records (any information which might be found in the National Archives), the following person has volunteered to help:

Dorothy Harlan Wear
M.P. 064 R – Matthews Rd.
Washougal, WA 98671

The following person has agreed to serve as the coordinator of all genealogical revisions/updates. Send her a copy of whatever information your research generates. Please be sure to explain how you are related to the family, using the numbers from the Alpheus Harlan genealogy whenever possible:

Janice Cierly White
2004 Juniper Ct.
Bakersfield, CA 93309

The appropriate regional coordinator would also appreciate a copy of your research to share with other family members. This report was prepared by William K. Harlan, Walnut Creek, CA and Steve Harrison, Independence, MO.

A HARLAN FEATURE STORY

HOW IT WAS!

**Article by Sara Elvira Spray,
Fresno, CA
(Mrs. Spray turned 92 May 7, 1987)**

A family I knew in Falls County, Texas was noted for inviting people home to dinner following services at the Blue Ridge Baptist Church. This church was about 5 miles east of the small town of Reagan and about a mile north of the road that ran east to the small town of Rosse. It was built on land given for a school, church, and cemetery by Isiah Harlan. The church and school buildings had been replaced by better ones from time to time. The church building built in 1908 was quite elaborate compared to buildings of other county churches. It had two steeples, one higher than the other, but no bell was ever installed. It had Sunday school rooms front and back. Lighting was from elaborate suspended kerosene lamps. There was then no rural electrification.

Isiah Harlan, who donated this 17 acre tract was born in S. Carolina. He had moved north where he joined the Nolan Colony to go to the province of Mexico. Isiah and wife, Nancy Henry, were granted a league of land in the area later comprising Robertson County through which the Brazos River flows in a southeasterly direction. Their children received portions of this land and the home that was noted for Sunday dinners was one. It had a broad veranda facing south, but there was no grandeur to match the historic implication of a home like this when slaves did all work and left the occupants of the house in leisure. This family lived like their neighbors who ate bread by the sweat of the brow.

At this time play parties that country people had engaged in had changed to singings for something for young people to do for entertainment. If a couple planned a singing in their

home, they simply borrowed song books from church on Sunday night and returned them the following Sunday morning. My own parents never had a singing because the "parlor" was too small to merit the name. Also my older sister who played the piano well enough to accompany singing was married and living in California.

Two years earlier I had enjoyed a Sunday dinner at the home I mentioned in the beginning. I never balanced the favor by inviting a girl from the family to go home with me from church. I had no special skills in cooking and left most of it for my mother to do while I did homework. My parents had "paid down" on 140 acres of land close enough to Reagan that my younger sister and brother and I went to school there. We were taken to school standing in a wagon holding umbrellas when it rained. In good weather we walked the two miles. Besides high school studies, I belonged to a Shakespeare Club. I went alone in a buggy at night to meetings, but there was then no violence to fear. (This home we moved to in fall of 1910 was dilapidated, but my father built a new barn with a big loft and a room for harnesses and saddles, and even fenced a 20 acre field with hog wire before he did any repairs to the dwelling, but no one complained). I never invited the Shakespeare Club for the same reason we did not have singings.

In late summer of 1912 I was again invited to have Sunday dinner in this very hospitable home and accepted. Later that mid-afternoon I was about to telephone (by turning a crank to ring) home so my younger sister and brother could come in the buggy to take me home when a girl of the family came and said a certain one of her brothers had already said he wanted to take me home when I was ready to go. The ride in his buggy was uneventful except before we reached my home he asked if I would kiss him goodbye and I said no. He did not try to sway me by touching me. He knew no nice girl kissed fellows.

That year a letter was received by everyone that the Harlan Genealogy was to be printed and late family data

was wanted, along with \$10 in advance for a copy of the book. The man who traveled to get family data from family bibles had been in the area in the 1880's I think.

I wrote the letter and sent the P.O. money order for \$10 that arranged for the book we got by mail in 1914.

My name, Sara Elvira, with my brothers and sisters is found under the number of my grandfather Harlan, which is 6058.

Elvira Harlan Spray, April 20, 1987

QUIPS OVERHEAD AT CELEBRATION 300:

Desk clerks at the Sheraton-Brandywine: "Just give us your first name; we don't want to hear HARLAN again!" On Thursday: "If you think this is bad, wait until tomorrow!" On Friday, "We can't use first names to keep people straight anymore. Now we are going to have to go to middle names!"

Name tags were being made. One man, waiting for his, quipped, "Now you spell that last name H-A-R-L-A-N!"

A man and his wife read about the Reunion for the first time in the Wilmington paper on Sunday morning. They came straight to the Sheraton-Brandywine. The man's grandmother had attended the 200 reunion celebration, and he had copies of pages from the Harlan genealogy showing her family line. Was he ever excited!

Another woman found out about the Reunion in the Sunday paper, and made it to the Sheraton in time to go on one of the bus tours.

Sunday afternoon a couple went back to Kennett Meeting, just to look at the house of worship and the cemetery again. Another couple was in a car parked there, and when the two couples engaged in conversation, the people who were parked mentioned that the woman's maiden name had been Harlan. They were from eastern Maryland, and had known nothing about the Reunion. They did know about the connection of Kennett Meeting with Harlans, and had driven there just to see it.